

Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2005

Council Members Present

Kriste Etue, Vice - chair
Bradley Deacon
Okey Eneli
Tim Jones
Thomas Lennox
Anthony Sanfilippo
William Smith
Les Thomas
Kevin Thomason
William Wagoner

Council Members Excused Absence

Others Present

Doran Duckworth, MSP/EMD
Angela Houseman, MSP/EMD
Anthony Katarsky, MSP/EMD
Matt Schnepp, MSP/EMD
Mike Sobocinski, MSP/EMD

Call meeting to order. At 1:33 p.m., Vice - chair Kriste Etue called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda. The agenda was approved.

Approve Minutes. Bradley Deacon made a motion to approve the October 19, 2004, Special and Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was approved.

State Agency / Private Sector / Local Emergency Management Program Updates.

A report will be given to the Governor's Office after each MHMCC meeting so council members are encouraged to bring information about projects and issues they are working on.

Update from the Michigan Department of Management and Budget (MDMB) by Okey Eneli.

No update at this time.

Update from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) by Lt. Thomas Lennox.

No update at this time.

Update from the Insurance Industry (State Farm Insurance) by Kevin Thomason.

Three informational handouts were given to council members, titled "Boosting public knowledge of booster seats", "National Weather Service, NOAA Weather Radio", and "Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness, Winter Hazards Awareness Week, November 7-13, 2004".

Mr. Thomason explained that statistics have shown that children between the ages of four and eight years old that use booster seats will sustain 59% less injury than those that use seatbelts alone. As a result, the Boost Michigan Kids Coalition has been established to reduce injury to children within this age

group. In other states throughout the United States there are 24 booster seat laws passed as of May 2004 pertaining to this age group. This issue has not been introduced as bill in Michigan, although it might be introduced this year.

NOAA weather radio broadcasts through the National Weather Service from various stations around the state. There are some locations around the country where they are streaming NOAA weather radio information (which now includes all hazards) over the web. It was suggested that Michigan could be the first state in completely covering NOAA weather information streaming over the web. Since NOAA weather radios are now all hazards (also addressing homeland security issues) it could possibly be funded governmentally or even by corporation(s).

The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management Division (MSP/EMD) is now using a crisis management software called E-team and is testing "Code Spear", which sends a display page, to activate cell phones and computers in the event of a disaster. Council members were invited to tour the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and view this software.

Update from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) by Les Thomas.

The 18th annual conference of the Michigan Stormwater-Floodplain Management Association is February 14-16, 2005 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan.

Mr. Thomas explained that there are three stages involved in the National Floodplain Insurance Program (NFIP) mapping process. First, there is an initial scoping meeting with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and communities where they bring data for mapping purposes. Next is a preliminary map meeting where communities can make changes to the finished product from the previous meeting. Then there is the final map stage, which may start the adoption process if approved.

Berrien County is the first county to go through the process almost to completion. The final map meeting was held and they have a six-month time period to get their maps adopted. Macomb County will be the second county in the state to get to the final stage. The next final meeting will be with Oakland County next month. This is a five-year plan that every county in the State of Michigan will go through. Les Thomas has a schedule of when each county will go through the process if anyone is interested.

Part of the NFIP involves the State of Michigan doing audits of communities that are participating on behalf of FEMA. MDEQ has determined that approximately 1/3 of NFIP buildings are involved in some type of code violation. One important issue is that building permits are being given to allow homes to be built below the standard elevation criteria in the state building code. The state building code does not have a very extensive compliance program where the state can monitor local community administration of the code.

Most communities do not know what is required for building construction. A solution would be to have communities take a course to be a licensed inspector for the state. Another would be to include in correspondence to communities a notice that issuing a building permit without following the state code could result in code violations with consequences.

Update from the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) by Bradley Deacon.

There were three different agricultural disaster declarations that were requested last year. The MDA collected a millionth pound of pesticide and was recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency for their success. The drain code legislation did not make it through again this last year.

There was a statewide survey done this summer on the Emerald Ash Borer with the help of MDOT. After the study was completed, areas were identified where the Emerald Ash Borer has infested and unfortunately it has spread. The spread is attributed to wood being taken up north to be burned at campsites. The Emerald Ash Borer is not something the state will be able to get rid of. Therefore, efforts at this time are on treatment strategies and containment.

The Diagnostic Center for Animal and Population Health at MSU has officially opened. It is one of the most advanced laboratories in the country for animal diseases. On January 14, 2005, Brad Deacon set up a tour of the Diagnostic Center for MSP/EMD staff. The facility serves a dual role in that if a catastrophic event such as a terrorist attack were to occur, the facility could be used as a temporary location for mass casualties.

Update from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) by Tim Jones.

This year there will be a seven-region approach for the state using the Federal Highway Safety and MDOT grant funds. These funds typically amount to around \$20 million with a 5% local match. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) project for the US-2 Black River culvert replacement for MDOT needs \$120,000 more for project completion. MDOT is currently looking at other funding sources to finish this project.

Update from an Urban Planning Association by William Wagoner.

Livingston County has determined that local jurisdictions should be more involved in articulating the hazards identified as part of their hazard mitigation planning process. Therefore, the eight-hour course by the American Planning Association, "Planning for a Disaster Resistant Community" will be offered in different jurisdictions for all participants involved in the emergency management process. At this time, Livingston County is scheduling the course for Handy and Hamburg Townships and the City of Brighton.

Update from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) by Anthony Sanfilippo.

At the last State Fire Safety Board meeting, authorization was given to move forward with adopting the international fire code for the State of Michigan. This may cause changes in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and other such facilities relating to their fire safety codes.

HMGP Update (Federal Disaster 1527). The HMGP 1527-DR projects were due to the MSP/EMD on January 14, 2005. The federal funding available for 1527-DR is slightly over \$3.1 million with \$156,266 available for 5% funding (i.e. warning sirens, generators, phone systems). There were 71 projects received totaling over \$23.8 million in project costs. The total federal share for these projects exceeds \$16.2 million.

A multi-page handout was given to council members that consisted of a description of the projects by geographic area and project type, a map of Michigan State Police districts, an overview of the selection and approval process, an HMGP project prioritization scoring matrix and a guide to the matrix, and a sample letter from Federal Disaster 1413-DR for the selection panel participants. Binders with all of the project applications will be sent to the selection panel for review by the first week of February. The selection panel will meet the last week of February to review and score project applications as a group.

William Smith made a motion that William Wagoner, Kevin Thomason, Les Thomas, William Smith, Matt Schnepf, Tim Jones, Bradley Deacon, and subject matter experts from the Departments of Agriculture, Transportation, and Environmental Quality form the selection panel for the 1527-DR HMGP grants. The motion was approved.

FY 2005 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Update.

The council received the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM) Notice of Funds Availability for FY 2005, which was provided to local emergency managers, state agency emergency managers, Michigan Indian tribes, Michigan public colleges and/or universities, regional planning commissions, and MSP/EMD district coordinators back in December 2004. There are three categories to this grant, which are "brick and mortar" type projects with a \$3 million federal share cap, mitigation planning projects with a \$3 million federal share cap, and disaster resistant universities and colleges grants. Once the MSP/EMD has received all the letters of interest, an email will be sent out to the council members notifying them of the applications that met the requirements and those that did not.

New Business.**Meeting Dates for 2005.**

There is a change in meetings for 2005. On October 19, 2005, the council will meet in the presentation room instead of the terrace room.

Council Report of Activities for 2003/2004.

The Council Report of Activities for 2003/2004 will be put on a CD and sent to council members for review. The report should be reviewed in its entirety by all council members and MSP/EMD staff. Certain council members will be asked to provide their expertise in specific areas of the review. Comments on the report should be given to Doran Duckworth by the end of February.

Hazard Mitigation Marketing Project.

Kevin Thomason motioned that discussion on the hazard mitigation marketing project be tabled to the next meeting on April 20, 2005. The motion was approved.

Old Business.**Update on Statewide Planning Initiative.**

Oakland County is likely to be the first local plan to be approved in Michigan under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Also, FEMA reviewers will now have the "official" review of Michigan's HMGP plans. They had previously authorized the state to officially review the plans but now have a team of reviewers to accomplish this. The only jurisdictions remaining for submittal of HMGP planning applications are Tuscola, Monroe, and St. Joseph Counties, and the City of Battle Creek. The funding for mitigation plan development (under this statewide initiative) is available until August 22, 2005.

Update on the Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan is completed and was submitted to FEMA on December 16, 2005. The council members were given a suppressed data version of the plan. The MSP/EMD should get the FEMA review results back in February or March.

Next Meeting Date – April 20, 2005, at 1:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room.

Motion made by William Smith to adjourn. Motion was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2005

Council Members Present

Kriste Etue, Vice-chair
Bradley Deacon
Okey Eneli
Tim Jones
Thomas Lennox
Anthony Sanfilippo
William Smith
Les Thomas
Kevin Thomason
William Wagoner

Council Members Excused Absence

Others Present

Doran Duckworth, MSP/EMD
Carol Dunn, MSP/EMD
Mike Franzak, MSP/EMD
Joel Pepper, MSP/EMD
Mike Sobocinski, MSP/EMD
Karen Totzke, MSP/EMD
Jason Nairn, DMB

Call meeting to order. At 1:30 p.m., Vice-chair Kriste Etue called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda. The agenda was approved.

Approve Minutes. William Wagoner moved to approve the January 19, 2005, meeting minutes. The motion was approved.

State Agency / Private Sector / Local Emergency Management Program Updates

A report will be given to the Governor's Office after each MHMCC meeting so council members are encouraged to bring information about projects and issues they are working on.

Update from the Michigan Department of Management and Budget (MDMB) by Okey Eneli.

By Earth Day, April 22, 2005, the governor plans to issue a directive to improve energy efficiency in all state buildings, purchasing, fleet, and in encouraging alternative fuels. Each agency will be directed to cut energy consumption by 10% by 2008. We have come close to that by turning out the lights in the buildings when we leave at night. The 10% reduction is benchmarked to 2002 consumption. Jason Nairn was introduced as the new Council representative from MDMB as his position is closely related to emergency management.

Update from the Insurance Industry (State Farm Insurance) by Kevin Thomason.

Mr. Thomason reported that the Boost Michigan Kids Coalition is attempting to introduce legislation requiring booster seats for four to eight year old children because of the drastic increase in safety.

Senator Michelle McManus will be introducing the bill and the governor's office has indicated some support for it.

The insurance industry is very aware of the discussions regarding the repeal of the helmet law for motorcyclists. The insurance industry, the medical profession, and safety experts oppose the repeal of the helmet law. No one is interested in taking away individual choice and freedom but the issue, as the insurance industry views it, is the cost differences associated with injuries and death from motorcyclists not wearing helmets and how that cost is borne by the rest of the public. The governor's office has indicated that the governor will veto the bill should it reach her desk.

At a previous meeting Mr. Thomason had addressed the potential for NOAA all hazard radio being broadcast statewide by streaming it across the web. He noted that he found a commercial company called 911broadcast.com which is doing that on a fee basis. He stated that confirmed that there is an audience for immediate notifications of weather related situations.

Update from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) by Les Thomas.

In February MDEQ held the annual Michigan Floodplain Association Conference (MSWFM Conference). It was a multi-day conference at the Grand Traverse Resort and was very successful. It was held in concert with the Michigan Drain Commission Association. The SWFM conference was held from Monday to Wednesday morning; the Michigan Drain Commissioners held their conference Wednesday afternoon to Friday. It allowed agencies and communities with similar interests in both associations to come for the entire week and was quite effective. MDEQ plans to use the same format next year.

Mr. Thomas reported that the major event from DEQ Water Management is the disbanding of the dam safety unit which happened due to budget cuts. The owners of the dams are still required to do annual inspections but the state will not review those inspections. The owners are still responsible to do the inspections and still responsible to submit the plans although there is no one to review them. Mr. Thomas said, to the best of his knowledge, that prior to the disbanding of this unit there were only one or two other states that did not have a dam safety program. Mr. Thomas reported that Michigan has around two thousand dams and that most are aging and he fears the safety issues with a major storm. There was much concern expressed by the Council members about the safety issues raised by having no dam safety inspection ability. Mr. Thomas also reported on a program sponsored by FEMA called the Community Rating System which is part of the National Flood Insurance Program. A community involved in that system is automatically awarded 57 points if that community is in a state with a dam safety program. Only one Michigan community of the 16-17 CRS communities will lose enough points that the lowering of their scores will drop them into a different insurance bracket.

Update from Local Emergency Management (Ottawa County Emergency Services) by William Smith.

Homeland Security grants and issues are absorbing much time on a local level although the local programs are continuing work on their mitigation plans.

Update from the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) by Bradley Deacon.

A bill has gotten out of a House Committee to mandate that 2% of all diesel sold in the state be biodiesel once Michigan reaches the level of being able to produce half of what is needed in the state. The administration is very interested in renewable fuels but the petroleum industry is opposed to this bill. It is not generally known but Michigan diesel is not tested. The MDA tests gasoline for quantity and quality through the Motor Fuel Quality Act and Weights and Measures Act but if there is a complaint on diesel there is no one to test it. This bill would add diesel to our oversight but would require changes in the laboratory and new equipment and staff.

There are legislative related issues regarding fertilizer being considered. One bill concerns anhydrous ammonia and security practices, particularly for farmers and industry. Another bill concerns ammonium nitrate, a fertilizer that in the wrong hands can cause trouble. A grant from the Urban Area Security

Initiative has been received and is targeted toward greenhouses in Wayne County. A partnership has been developed with MSP Motor Carrier and is proving very effective.

Representative Jones from Eaton County has introduced a bill to amend the drain code. This is a hazard mitigation issue that has been followed for many years. This is a delicate issue and has been referred to work groups.

Update from an Urban Planning Association by William Wagoner.

Mr. Wagoner is continuing to promote planning for the Disaster Resistant Community course. Ideally it is delivered as an eight hour course but can be condensed for shorter blocks of times. It is hoped that the program will be offered state wide so that communities will understand that relationship between the principles of emergency management and specifically hazard mitigation in the planning practice of the community course.

Update from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) by Tim Jones.

MDOT projects in the UP covered by the hazard mitigation grants are in the letting process now. Mr. Jones also announced that MDOT received \$75 million for the critical bridge program. The bridges have been selected and most are bridges owned by County Road Commissions although some bridges are owned by villages. This money coming to the state of Michigan this year is more than double what was received last year.

Update from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) by Anthony Sanfilippo.

The Bureau and the Department are still working on the update of the fire safety rules and taking it to different code groups. The State Fire Safety Board announced at its last meeting a new chair appointed by the governor (Ronald Farr) who wants to put together a work group to assist the Bureau in assessing fire safety standards for facilities covered under Public Act 207. He would like to change two of the fire drills required under the act to lock down drills. This process will be an opportunity to clarify parts of the act and improve it. It appears that legislation will move forward. Legislation went into effect today that requires every residential home and multi-family home in the state to have smoke detectors. Unfortunately the Bureau hasn't written the rules yet and probably won't until June or July.

Cook Nuclear received new NRC rules stating they have to be prepared for a 747 to fly into the plant. Inspector Etue recommended Tony Katarsky as the nuclear specialist in the department and the proper person to consult with Cook to answer their concerns.

Update from the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division by Lt. Thomas Lennox

DNR Forest, Mineral, and Fire Management has done a good job of educating the public on wild fires and the department is welcoming the much needed rain. Over 600 acres in the state have been burned which comparatively isn't bad considering the dry conditions. The director has issued an order closing any burning on public lands. Inspector Etue commended DNR for its use of E-team. Lt. Lennox reported that emergency management improvements over the past year are great. Chronic Wasting Disease is an issue that is being worked on jointly by the MDA and DNR. Brad Deacon, MDA, reported problems with the industry ranging from record keeping to fence heights or no fences. The livestock animals look exactly like the wildlife animals. The good news is that CWD has not been found in Michigan.

HMGP Update (1527).

Joel Pepper presented the report. HMGP 1346 covered 135 projects resulting from flooding in the Detroit area in September 2000. The last small group of projects is being approved; they are still in need of approval due to environmental review processes. The biggest concern is the Flint River dike project which is becoming very lengthy and expensive and is at the third level of review for possible Native American artifacts. Hopefully approval will be given within this calendar year.

HMGP 1413 was a relatively small disaster from 2002 flooding in the UP. The HMGP allocation for 1413 was \$750,000. There are seven projects under HMGP 1413, all in the UP. Four of those projects have

been approved and three are moving through the process smoothly and should be approved this fiscal year.

HMGP 1527 was from the May, 2004 flooding. 76 projects were submitted to the MSP/EMD for funding consideration. The MHMCC selection committee met on March 23, 2005, and considered the 24 projects that remained in the running from the initial project screening by staff. See minutes from January 19, 2005, for eligibility criteria. The Council had directed that for a project to be eligible, it must meet a benefit cost analysis. Beyond that they were scored using the mitigation project scoring matrix and various other criteria. Most of these projects were not of the project type which is the national focus (acquisition of property within the flood plain or floodway or elevations of those same types of properties). There is a total of \$3.1 million in federal HMGP funds. Of that available under HMGP 1527, approximately \$2,564,121 is allocated for regular projects, \$156,000 for sirens, and \$405,000 for management costs. The full Council must approve the selection panel's recommendations.

Brad Deacon, MDA, stated that having been on the committee he appreciated not having to review all 76 applications and only reviewing the best ones.

William Smith moved and Kevin Thomason seconded the motion to follow the recommendations of the panel and award the money through the project list as long as the money is available. Motion carried.

Mr. Pepper then addressed the issue of the siren applications which fall within the other 5% of funds to be awarded. The Council had instructed that the siren grants were to be awarded to communities that previously had applied. However, there was not enough money to fund all of the sirens. There was much discussion as to how to award the siren funds. It was ultimately decided to approve sirens for each entity that had a pending application rather than fully fund a smaller number of communities.

William Smith moved and William Wagoner seconded that funding be granted for the siren project with a maximum amount per siren of \$19,000 with allocations as follows: Georgetown Township total of four, Robinson Township total of one, Ray Township total of one, Wayne Township total of one and Salem Township total of two.

William Smith abstained from voting as some of the sirens are in his county. Motion carried.

Mr. Thomason asked if a formula could be developed for siren allocations. Doran Duckworth, MSP/EMD, stated that the formula that has been in use is well developed but that staff would review.

FY 2005 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Update

Karen Totzke presented the report on the 2005 Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant. Eleven applications were submitted for a total of \$11.3 million. All of the applications submitted have approved hazard mitigation plans, and Mike Sobocinski, MSP/EMD, is in the final stages of getting the plans adopted so that the communities applying for funds are eligible to receive funding. Currently the applications are undergoing technical review and the national selection committee is scheduled to begin evaluating the applications on May 17, 2005, with awards anticipated by FEMA by the end of June (which may change if the national evaluation panel changes its timeline).

Flood Mitigation Grant Update

Karen Totzke reported on the Notice of Availability for Flood Mitigation Assistance Funds for 2005. This notice will go out shortly to local Emergency Management Coordinators, state agency Emergency Management Coordinators, Regional Planning Commissions, and the Michigan Indian Tribes announcing that the 2005 FMAP grant is available. These are due on May 13, 2005. (This date has since been changed to June 3, 2005.) If more planning grant applications are received the council will be asked to review those applications. Typically there is one recipient for planning and technical assistance and one recipient for project applications. The project applicants must already have approved flood mitigation plans to receive the project funds. There are two communities interested in planning funds. Ms. Totzke is currently working with Bridgeton Township for FY 2004 FMAP funds in preparation to submitting their application to FEMA by April 30, 2005.

Old Business.

Council Report of Activities 2003/2004

Doran Duckworth stated that the Council Report of Activities had been distributed and compliments have been received on it. He thanked the Council for their contributions to the document.

Update on Statewide Planning Initiative

Mike Sobocinski addressed local hazard mitigation planning and referred the Council to a map insert in the packet.. The map contains an ordinal scale of the status of the approved hazard mitigation plans. There are three communities that have not started plans. Mr. Deacon and Mr. Wagoner addressed those communities particularly. Mr. Sobocinski explained that Midland County had submitted a plan without requesting funds. Monroe County has chosen not to develop a plan. Mr. Wagoner offered to talk with the Emergency Management Director of Monroe County.

Update on the Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan

Doran Duckworth announced that the Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by FEMA and included the letter in the packet. He introduced Mike Franzak, the new local planner on staff, and noted that Mr. Franzak will be updating the Michigan Hazard Analysis. Mr. Duckworth stated that the final document is ready to be distributed and asked how the Council would like to have the document distributed. It is a large document and would be costly and cumbersome to produce in paper. He asked the Council's thoughts on putting the document on CD or the website. Inspector Etue expressed concerns on posting sensitive, even blacked-out, information on the web. William Smith suggested an information letter identifying that the plan has been approved and is available in electronic format (CD) upon written request. There was discussion about charging for copies but this is covered under a grant and the consensus was not to charge.

New Business.

Discussion on the Mitigation Marketing Postcards

Karen Totzke directed the Council to copies of the final versions of the proposed mitigation marketing postcards. She asked for permission from the Council to close out Phase I of this project and to make final payment to ZimmerFish, the marketing firm that was hired to develop the postcards. The postcards will be directed at seven target groups: elected officials, road commissioners, drain commissioners, local emergency management coordinators, public works directors, planners, and mayors and other elected officials. ZimmerFish was hired through funds from HMGP 1346 and has created a marketing plan of three postcards to be sent two-three weeks apart. Mr. Duckworth directed the Council to page 18 of the annual report for a synopsis of the project. The goal is to target the seven groups indicating what they can do as a professional group to help reduce vulnerability in their communities and mitigate various types of hazards. William Smith moved and Anthony Sanfillipo seconded that the marketing idea be accepted and ZimmerFish be paid, and the plan be moved to the next phase. Motion carried. The next phase will be to design the materials specific to each target group and to decide how best to reach that group. Those will be discussions for the future.

IRS ruling – Elevations as taxable income

Joel Pepper reported on the recent IRS ruling (which was signed into law on April 15, 2005) that specified that money received by individuals under the Stafford Act was not to be counted as income and taxed. He recounted the history of the original legislation. He explained that it was never the intent of the legislation for mitigation monies to be taxable but the IRS was considering those monies as taxable as the legislation did not specifically include the language to state that the monies were not to be considered as income.

Safe Room Legislation

Doran Duckworth directed the Council's attention to House Bill 4281 introduced by Representative Shaffer at the request of MEMA to require all new mobile home parks and additions to mobile home parks to construct on-site space to protect residents from severe weather. This is the latest in a series of attempts to get this legislation passed. It has been defeated every time by strong industry opposition. Mr. Duckworth asked if the Council would like to take a position on this issue. Inspector Etue would like to see

an analysis of the bill once it reaches that stage. Mr. Wagoner stated that he has been involved with this issue for over 30 years. He expressed his strong support of the bill but is aware of the political reality. He would like to see it as an agenda item as would Mr. Thomason as the insurance industry is in strong support of this legislation. It is his belief that the way change may ultimately be accomplished is if wrongful death and injury suits are filed in the courts. Inspector Etue recommended this as an agenda item for a future meeting.

MHMCC update to the MSP/EMD Website

Karen Totzke reported that the web site for the Council has a mission statement, a vision statement, and a very brief description of the Council. She asked if anyone would be opposed to having their name, agency and e-mail link put on the web site. Inspector Etue asked to have a mock-up of the proposed web site at the next meeting ready for discussion. Mr. Duckworth wants to update the site and remove the dead links.

Next Meeting Date – July 20, 2005 in the Terrace Room.

Motion made by William Smith to adjourn. Motion was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2005

Council Members Present

Kriste Etue, Chair
Bradley Deacon
Okey Eneli
Tim Jones
William Smith
Les Thomas
Kevin Thomason
William Wagoner

Council Members Excused Absence

Thomas Lennox
Anthony Sanfilippo

Others Present

Doran Duckworth, MSP/EMD
Mike Franzak, MSP/EMD
Angela Houseman, MSP/EMD
Tony Katarsky, MSP/EMD
Andy Neumann, Office of Fire Safety, DLEG
Mike Sobocinski, MSP/EMD
Karen Totzke, MSP/EMD

Call meeting to order. At 1:35 p.m., Vice-chair Kriste Etue called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda. The agenda was approved.

Approve Minutes. William Wagoner made a motion to approve the April 20, 2005, meeting minutes. The motion was approved.

Update from an Urban Planning Association by William Wagoner.
No update.

Update from the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) by Bradley Deacon.

A bill passed on fertilizer to require those selling ammonia nitrate to maintain improved records of people they sell it to. A bill is also being reviewed for reducing the legal liability of people who store anhydrous ammonia on site that follow established practices.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has issued a final rule for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program to improve the effectiveness of its response to natural disasters. The MDA will report back to the council with more information on this matter.

Update from the Michigan Department of Management and Budget (MDMB) by Okey Eneli.

The State of Michigan plans to reduce energy consumption 10% by 2008. Currently, they are auditing facilities and looking at different types of energy sources. There is a new director of MDMB that will be announced today.

Update from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) by Tim Jones.

The MDOT is working on a traffic safety campaign where they are changing the font on traffic signs. This new font is referred to as Clearview lettering and provides a 27% increase in nighttime visibility. Traffic signals especially in urban areas will be larger and contain a LTD light that is brighter, lasts longer, and uses less energy. In urban areas, pedestrian signals will let you know how many seconds you have to cross the street before the hand is up for stop. Also, street lines will be thickened to six-inches.

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) M-28 sand dune stabilization project is ongoing. The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management Division (MSP/EMD) is currently working with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to complete a Section 106 review application for phase II of the Alberta Ponds Culvert replacement project.

Update from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) by Les Thomas.

The dam safety unit has been dissolved and staff were moved to other programs. Although the MDEQ is still reviewing and issuing permits for construction work on existing and proposed dams, there are technically no dam inspectors with the MDEQ.

In June, Les Thomas attended the National Floodplain Managers Association Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. It was very well attended with over 900 participants from around the country. The conference had a wide variety of seminars related to floodplain management, which benefited each participant.

MDEQ's map modernization project has the first final draft flood maps ready to be issued within the next month for Berrien County. Berrien County is the first county in Michigan to go through the entire map modernization process. Meetings are being held this week and next to start work on another series of counties for the map modernization project. Most of these counties will be around the Lansing area.

Update from the Insurance Industry (State Farm Insurance) by Kevin Thomason.

The Severe Weather Awareness Committee is currently developing a media release to remind the general public about the danger of lightning since there have been two reported lightning injuries in July. The media release will include guidance on lightning safety since Michigan is second to Florida for the most dangerous lightning activity in the U.S. In related lightning news, the Fillmore Tower in Ottawa County, which houses an early warning siren, has been hit three times in the last five years causing considerable damage to the tower. Representatives from the National Lightning Institute assessed all the towers located in Ottawa County and provided possible ways for Ottawa County to mitigate future damages from lightning strikes. In Federal Disaster 1237, Macomb County was funded under the HMGP 5% initiative for two lightning protection and grounding projects to mitigate future damage to warning sirens and a communication facility. The Severe Weather Awareness Committee is going to put together lightning safety guidance.

The booster seat legislation requiring four to eight year olds to use booster seats did not pass during the spring legislative session. The bill will be revisited during the fall session. One reason the bill did not pass the spring session was due to an attached amendment making it illegal to have more occupants in a vehicle than there are restraining devices (seatbelts). State Farm is still involved in an ongoing cooperative project with the Philadelphia Children's Hospital with regard to statistics about children involved in car accidents. The children's hospital studies the information and releases a report that includes the treatments and length of recovery from the accident. It was from the results of this report that the booster seat legislation bill in Michigan was created.

An article and press release were distributed to the council titled, "State Farm's Fifth Annual Child Safety Day Events Will Be Held in May and September" and "Most kids aren't properly buckled; State Farm offers free child safety seat inspections". State Farm Insurance conducts a number of safety seat checkups around the state for the public.

When funds are available, State Farm buys car seats and distributes them at these events. At the May 2005 events, there were 495 seat inspections done around the state. The experience at these Michigan events, as well as statistics from similar events in the State Farm Great Lakes zone (Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois) and nationally all show that only 12% of children who showed up to these events are adequately protected in their car seats.

A State Farm grant program is funding distribution of a DVD on riptides and rip currents. Approximately 5,000 copies of the DVD will be distributed to schools through out Michigan this fall. The DVD revolves around the stories of three Michigan teens killed by rip currents, and was produced by the Grand Haven

Area Community Foundation. Kevin Thomason will try to bring some of these DVD's to the next council meeting.

Update from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) by Andy Neumann.

In June, the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) participated in a Michigan homeland security symposium with the MSP/EMD and the City of Detroit. The purpose of the symposium was to assist Detroit in training more emergency responders for the upcoming Super Bowl and other national and international events.

The hydrogen fuel cell auto safety summit will be held in Detroit on October 3 and 4, 2005. The summit will focus on hydrogen fuel cell cars and the challenges this type of alternative fuel cell car will face, especially with regard to safety issues. A contract has been made with the federal government to set the guidelines for training on the safe storage, handling, and dispensing of hydrogen fuel. Production of these cars is projected to begin around 2010 to 2015. On October 4, there will be a state summit to showcase Michigan's involvement in this effort. These events are open to the public and will be posted to the MDLEG website shortly.

Update from Local Emergency Management (Ottawa County Emergency Services) by William Smith.

Robinson Township has received official notification that they are in the pre-award stage for their PDM grants. The project was to acquire 40 houses and 20 parcels out of the Grand River floodplain. Some of the residents identified in the acquisition project want to elevate rather than sell.

- A resolution was passed by the township board in 1994 identifying the base flood elevation when Robinson Township entered the National Flood Insurance Program. Currently some residents are contending the adopted base flood elevation, stating it was lower. Bill Smith and Les Thomas worked together to verify that the base flood elevation was correct.
- MDOT is still in negotiations to purchase approximately five parcels on Limberlost Lane. The five parcels will be used for a bridge crossing for the US-31 bypass project. There have been rumors that MDOT is willing to pay 125% of the fair market value (FMV) for the properties, whereas the PDM grant will only pay up to 75% of the FMV with the resident or local community providing the 25% match.

Update from the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division by Lt. Thomas Lennox.

Not present.

HMGP Update (1527).

On June 30, 2004, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued presidential disaster declaration 1527 in Michigan. There is \$3.1 million in HMGP funds available from that disaster. Out of 74 applications submitted for funding consideration, 17 were selected for funding. Acceptance letters were sent out to the 17 selected applicants. At this time, there are 16 applications entered into the National Emergency Management Information System (NEMIS). Approximately half of the environmental reviews are now complete. The MSP/EMD had one year to submit the applications (June 30, 2005) but FEMA has given the MSP/EMD a 90-day extension (to September 28, 2005). FEMA no longer accepts a change in scope of work after the deadline and some projects needed to be changed. One project also dropped out of the grant program, which made an additional \$300,000 available. For the remaining funds, the MSP/EMD will collect information from the top three or four scored projects left on the list.

The 1527 HMGP Administrative Plan is due to FEMA before they will approve any projects. Final changes are currently being made to the plan. The plan will be sent to FEMA as soon as possible so that Susan Cosier (FEMA V mitigation contact) will have time to review the plan. Ms. Cosier will be leaving FEMA on August 12, 2005, so she will no longer be the contact person for mitigation for Michigan.

The Federal Disaster 1346 HMGP was allocated \$33 million for hazard mitigation projects. The MSP/EMD is still working on a number of these projects, which had delays. Unfortunately, environmental reviews are only good for one year so the MSP/EMD has been renewing them. Last month, a million dollars was paid out in 1346 HMGP disaster funds. Federal Disaster 1346 HMGP should be wrapped up in the next year.

FY 2005 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Update

A handout was distributed entitled "FY 2005 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Submitted Applications". The handout has the applications that were reviewed for funding consideration. The chart states the three projects that have received the pre-award notification and one project that is on the waiting list. Robinson Township was pre-awarded two projects for acquisitions and Michigan Technological University was pre-awarded a planning grant. The environmental and historical review must be approved prior to the grant award. New Baltimore is on the waiting list for the Harbor Creek Pump Station project.

Flood Mitigation Grant Update (FY 2004 and 2005)

The Bridgetown Township project was approved by FEMA on July 5, 2005, for Flood Mitigation Assistance Program FY 04 planning and technical assistance funds.

On July 15, 2005, Flood Mitigation Assistance Program FY 05 planning and technical assistance grant applications were submitted via eGrants. Internally at MSP/EMD, the review panel met and selected the City of Wakefield for a project and technical assistance grant. The City of Wakefield will be working with the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) on their flood mitigation plan.

Old Business.

Update on Statewide Planning Initiative

A map was distributed entitled "Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Status 7/20/05". At this time, there are three counties (Branch, Monroe, and St. Joseph) that are not receiving grants for, or actively participating in, developing an all hazard mitigation plan for their jurisdictions. Therefore, they will not be eligible for mitigation grant programs. At FEMA, there is a backlog on plan reviews so the MSP/EMD cannot speculate on a timeframe for approval. The MSP/EMD will call FEMA to get information on the current timeframes for review/approval so MSP/EMD can notify the local jurisdictions.

A few months back there was an EMD information letter distributed to locals that described the plan development and review processes for the state planning initiative. Les Thomas of the MDEQ would like to use this letter along with the corresponding map showing current plan development status in the upcoming Floodplain Managers Newsletter.

Hazard Mitigation Marketing Project Update (Phase I)

Zimmerfish Inc., which was hired with funds from the 1346 HMGP, has created a marketing plan to reach seven target groups in Michigan. In addition to creating the marketing plan, Zimmerfish also finalized the details for an MSP/EMD mascot, and created a graphic identity and set of teaser campaign postcards. The overall goal of this project is to provide information to the seven target groups regarding what they can do to help reduce vulnerability in their communities and mitigate various types of hazards. The postcards are now officially completed and will eventually be sent to the seven target groups (elected officials, road commissioners, drain commissioners, local emergency management coordinators, public works directors, local planners, and regional planners) to notify them of the educational materials that will be sent to them in phase II of the project.

New Business.

Safe Room Legislation

No new action since April meeting.

Discussion on Council Projects for 2005-2007

A handout was distributed and reviewed entitled "Proposed Staff/ MHMCC Projects for 2005-2007". This document will be reviewed and discussed in greater detail at the October 19, 2005, meeting.

Phase II – Hazard Mitigation Marketing Project (CD)

Phase II of the Statewide Hazard Mitigation Marketing Project will be the development of the educational materials (on a CD) for the seven target groups. Each section of the CD will have best practices for hazard mitigation, tailored to that particular group. Proposed questions such as "How does mitigation relate to me?" and "What do I need to be doing with regard to mitigation within my professional discipline?" will be answered in the guidance to each of the seven target groups. The MSP/EMD needs help with the best practices of each of the target groups. For example, what should a public works director in a county or municipal level be doing? What should an elected official be concerned with? What should professional planners be concerned with? A way to complete this task would be to start up the Special Projects Committee and then have subgroups work on the various elements.

Development of Guidelines/Protocols for Public-Private Partnerships

The MHMCC would like to partner with private companies and organizations but does not have guidance on how to proceed in that regard. For example:

- Can the council receive funds from private entities?
- Do funds go to the general fund and then get appropriated?
- Is there a cap on the amount of money requested?
- Is there a protocol for acceptance, transfer, and use of funds?
- What are the protocols for financial or in-kind contributions?

As a starting point, the council and staff will look at the council's enabling legislation (E.O. 1998-5) and determine what authorities it was given, and then explore from there what it can or cannot do.

MHMCC Web Page Revision

The web page revisions could be done relatively quickly. Council members should look at the set-up of the MHMCC and offer any suggestions they might have for improvement.

Mitigation Awards

The MHMCC has given awards to people in the past for outstanding service to the council. However, an excellence award is also called for. The council should decide what type of award it wants to develop, the basic award criteria, and how often it should be given. It was noted that the Michigan Emergency Management Association (MEMA) also gives a mitigation award each year to a MEMA member. (The deadline for applications this year is August 10, 2005.)

The council is to review the draft materials related to these and other proposed projects and send comments and what experience/skills you can bring to these projects to Karen Totzke.

Next Meeting Date – October 19, 2005 in the Presentation Room.

Motion made by William Smith to adjourn. Motion was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2005

Council Members Present

Kriste Etue, Chair
Anthony Katarsky, Vice-chair
Bradley Deacon
Okey Eneli
Tim Jones
Thomas Lennox
Anthony Sanfilippo
William Smith
Les Thomas
Kevin Thomason
William Wagoner

Council Members Excused Absence

Others Present

Jim Breuker, MSP/EMD
Doran Duckworth, MSP/EMD
Mike Franzak, MSP/EMD
Angela Houseman, MSP/EMD
Matt Schnepf, MSP/EMD
Mike Sobocinski, MSP/EMD
Karen Totzke, MSP/EMD

Call meeting to order. At 1:35 p.m., Chair Kriste Etue called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda. The agenda was approved.

Approve Minutes. William Wagoner made a motion to approve the July 20, 2005, meeting minutes. The motion was approved.

Update from the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division by Lt. Thomas Lennox.

A PowerPoint presentation was given of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Law Enforcement Division's deployment to New Orleans after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. A group of 54 conservation officers volunteered to assist in law enforcement, search and rescue, and recovery in the effected area. (Out of 54 conservation officers, two groups of eight actually went to New Orleans. The rest of the officers waited for assignments at a warehouse and after 4 days ended up returning to Michigan.)

Update from Local Emergency Management (Ottawa County Emergency Services) by William Smith.

The joint planning effort between Grand Rapids, Kent County, and Ottawa County was completed and a draft plan was submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). They are currently awaiting feedback from FEMA.

Update from the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) by Bradley Deacon.

The MDA met with the Michigan Department of Community Health to discuss Avian Flu and will be meeting with the Governor's Office and Colonel McDaniel to discuss it later this month. The MDA has written the Michigan Emergency Avian Disease Manual and has guidance on protective wear. The

poultry industry is considerably prepared in terms of biosecurity for disease. The concern is the interaction with wildlife and migratory birds.

Effective September of last year, MDA, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) created standard operating procedures for mass carcass disposal for outbreaks of animal disease.

The MDA along with the Michigan Farm Bureau will start a campaign at the end of November to early December with a brochure entitled "Protect Michigan's Food from the Farm to the Family".

Update from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) by Les Thomas.

There was concern that the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) does not work properly after what happened with Hurricane Katrina. As mentioned earlier, the MDNR was deployed to help with the response and recovery effort and many people were sent home after arriving. Also, the National Guard was deployed and waited to help for one week and were sent home. It was discussed that EMAC was not the problem but that many people self deployed and the unified incident management plan was not used in New Orleans.

As a result of EMAC and Hurricane Katrina, MDEQ is taking training to see how they can contribute to future disasters in the response and recovery effort. There have been about 17 or 18 people from MDEQ including Les Thomas that have taken the 2-day training "Unified Incident Management." They have also directed emergency management staff to take the IS 700 "Introduction to National Incident Management System" and IS 800 "Introduction to the National Response Plan" online courses from FEMA.

The Michigan Stormwater Management Association Conference will be held February 13-15, 2006, at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan.

In the map modernization project, several counties participated in scoping meetings, and the Ottawa, Wayne, Washtenaw, and Livingston County studies are ongoing. Kent, Oakland, and Macomb Counties have preliminary maps produced and Berrien County has produced its final map.

The MDEQ dam safety staff is back with MDEQ and has a budget for the time being.

Update from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) by Anthony Sanfilippo.

There was a hydrogen fuel cell car conference in Detroit on October 4 and 5, 2005. They are looking to have hydrogen car service centers up and running in the near future.

Update from the Insurance Industry (State Farm Insurance) by Kevin Thomason.

Kevin Thomason just returned from Louisiana. He was there for 7 weeks. After Hurricane Katrina, the logistics were more complex and complicated than anything he had dealt with before. There were more displaced people than there were places for them to stay. There was an unbelievable response with too few resources so people could not do anything to help.

The council asked how this year's hurricane season (particularly after Hurricane Katrina) will effect insurance rates, especially here in Michigan. The insurance rates are regulated on a state by state basis although there will be some effect for all states over the next 20 to 25 years. The bulk of the rates that will increase will be the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) rates.

Because three young men recently lost their lives due to rip currents, the Grand Haven Community Foundation produced a rip current safety DVD. They are looking for a distributor of the DVD and State Farm Insurance has agreed to produce 5,000 copies, which will be distributed to all the schools in the state.

The Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness will be distributing a Severe Winter Weather Hazards packet later this week to the media outlets and emergency managers around the state.

The City of Hudsonville is having a 50th anniversary commemoration on April 3, 2006, for the F5 tornado that hit Hudsonville and Standale on April 3, 1956. This was the worst tornado on record to have hit West Michigan.

Update from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) by Tim Jones.

The Michigan Department of Transportation has a total of seven hazard mitigation projects funded by Federal Disaster 1346 funds. Most of these will be wrapped up this fall. Two projects were submitted to FEMA for phase I approval and should start next year.

Update from an Urban Planning Association by William Wagoner.

The land use contract zoning legislation has passed. The new laws allow a landowner to propose, in writing, a certain use and type of development as a condition of rezoning a property. Local governments must coordinate with the county plan and not just a subdivision when approving conditional zoning requests.

The Michigan Society of Planning is still working on getting the Coordinated Planning Act through legislation. This would require municipalities to sit down together and talk about planning for the entire county and not just a subdivision. This would ensure coordination of development so that, for example, a subdivision would not be developing something upstream that would affect the floodplain or floodway downstream.

The American Planning Association was hired by FEMA to put together a national training course, which would integrate emergency management with comprehensive planning. That began in 2002 and is being taught all around the United States. On October 5, 6, and 7 the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority introduced the topic to the Technical Training Council, and on October 13, 2005 the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority and Michigan State University put on an 8-hour training session. There will be one or two more training sessions in the next twelve months in Michigan. They are teaching that planning is a part of response and recovery. Communities must plan (mitigate) future disasters when building.

Update from the Michigan Department of Management and Budget (MDMB) by Okey Eneli.

Critical infrastructure

For continuity of government, there has been a statewide effort to review critical functions within Michigan state agencies. This has been ongoing for about a year and a half. The MDMB realizes that there is a big gap between where we are at and where we need to be, and a lot of money is needed to backup critical functions. This project is going to be completed by 2008, but since Hurricane Katrina it has been moved up. The MDMB is working with a consultant to gather information and be able to get some functions back on line soon after a disaster - particularly those that effect life and safety.

The state government energy bill was \$2 million over last year's bill. The MDMB is looking at pooling resources to get better prices.

New Business

Proposed Staff/MHMCC Projects for 2005-2007 were handed out.

These three items are mainly self-sustaining and do not need input from the council.

Item 5 Implementation of "Most Wanted" Hazard Mitigation Measures

Item 7 Statewide Repetitive Flood Loss Properties Project

Item 8 Statewide Mitigation Planning Project

Item 9 Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan Revision

This needs to be completed by 2007. The Michigan State Police/Emergency Management Division (MSP/EMD) may use a grant from the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program to work on this by hiring a consultant. They may ask the council for advice or direction if they come to a crossroads.

Item 6 2005 MHMCC Report of Activities

Council members are welcome to participate in this activity. If anyone would like to participate, please contact Karen Totzke.

Item 5 Implementation of “Most Wanted” Hazard Mitigation Measures

Every year, a synopsis is in the MHMCC Annual Report of the projects on the most wanted list. MSP/EMD staff will continue to monitor these and if a problem arises they will bring it to the council.

Item 2 Public-Private Partnership Protocols

This item is on hold.

Item 4 MHMCC Web Page Revision

The MHMCC needs to take a critical look at its web pages and make specific recommendations to improve them. Comments need to be made to Karen Totzke by January.

Item 3 Mitigation Excellence Award

William Wagoner made a motion that Bradley Deacon, William Smith, Kevin Thomason, and William Wagoner serve on the Mitigation Excellence Award Committee. The motion was approved.

Item 1 Phase II of the Statewide Hazard Mitigation Marketing Project

A handout entitled, “Mitigation/Prevention Hall of Michigan: An Ounce of Prevention is Worth Two Pounds of Recovery,” was provided to each council member depicting what the CD might look like. Council members were asked to develop specific information for their assigned target groups. First drafts should be done by the January 2006 meeting.

Avian Flu/Possible Pandemic

There is a possibility of Avian Flu infecting people and it spreading from person to person. Currently, there are 117 cases worldwide of people catching Avian Flu from birds, with 60 deaths reported. This flu season, there is increased concern about a pandemic that would threaten healthy people. For the January council meeting, the MSP/EMD will arrange and have someone from MDCH come to the meeting and give a briefing on how Michigan is preparing for the possibility of a flu pandemic.

Approve 2006 Meeting Dates

Jan. 18, April 19, July 19, Oct. 18

Bradley Deacon made a motion to approve the 2006 meeting dates. The motion was approved. (The January 18 date has since been rescheduled for Thursday, January 19.)

HMGP Update (HMGP 1527 DR)

The selection panel had reviewed 24 applications for regularly competitive funds as well as a number of applications set aside for the 5% funds for warning sirens. The panel selected 17 applications including five warning siren applications. These were all submitted to FEMA but before the September 28, 2005, deadline two projects opted not to participate, two others reduced their budgets, and one other was withdrawn by MSP/EMD for not responding to calls or correspondence. As a result, \$700,000 was made available. MSP/EMD staff selected the next four highest scoring projects on the list below the top scoring projects. Because the next projects down the scoring list probably would not be funded by FEMA, two projects were selected that did not go through the competitive process. The council had previously decided that any project that was substantially damaged did not have to go through the competitive process for acquisition or elevation. Therefore, an application from Rutland Township to acquire a substantially damaged home was selected. Another project MSP/EMD selected came from the PDM program for New Baltimore. The total cost for all projects exceeded \$3.1 million in case any others drop out. MSP/EMD asked for support of their decision to select these projects without the selection panel.

Les Thomas made a motion to support staff’s actions to make sure that all the money was used by the rationale they used to select the remaining projects for 1527 HMGP. The motion was approved.

FY 2005 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Update

In late September, MSP/EMD received correspondence that FEMA has approved the grant awards for Robinson Township (2 project applications to remove structures from the floodplain) and to Michigan Technological University (development of a hazard mitigation plan). MSP/EMD is hoping to issue grant agreements to the subgrantees within the coming weeks.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Update (FY 2005)

MSP/EMD is waiting for FEMA approval of Wakefield Township grant. MSP/EMD received extra money for planning grants from other states returning their planning grant money. It was enough to fund planning grants for Plainfield Township and the City of Kalamazoo.

Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Update (FY 2006)

FEMA has issued the FY 06 PDM guidance, so applicants can begin gathering information for their proposed projects. Currently, the application period is not open in eGrants. MSP/EMD is in the final stages of completing a notice of availability of funds for PDM FY 06 grants. This should be posted to the MSP/EMD website and sent out in the next week or so.

Old Business

Update on Statewide Planning Initiative

A map was handed out entitled "Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Status as of October 18, 2005." The Kent and Ottawa County plans have not been reviewed yet but will be prioritized by FEMA for the next Michigan review. At the state level there has been progress since last meeting's map. There are three counties not using a grant. One county produced a plan even though it did not receive grant funds.

Next Meeting Date – January 19, 2006. (The January 18 date approved by the council was later changed to January 19.)

Motion made by William Smith to adjourn. Motion was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2006

(Subject to Council Approval)

Council Members Present

Anthony Katarsky, Vice-chair
Bradley Deacon
Tim Jones
Jason Nairn
William Smith
Les Thomas
Kevin Thomason
William Wagoner

Council Members Excused Absence

Thomas Lennox

Council Members Non-Excused Absence

Anthony Sanfilippo

Others Present

James Breuker, MSP/EMD
Doran Duckworth, MSP/EMD
Mike Franzak, MSP/EMD
Angela Houseman, MSP/EMD
Mike Sobocinski, MSP/EMD
Karen Totzke, MSP/EMD

Call meeting to order. At 1:32 p.m., Vice-chair Anthony Katarsky called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda. The agenda was approved.

Approve Minutes. William Smith made a motion to approve the October 19, 2005, meeting minutes with a correction to page two, paragraph two as follows – “Effective September of last year, MDA, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) created standard operating procedures for mass carcass disposal for outbreaks of animal disease.” The motion was approved.

New Business.

Grand Challenges for Disaster Reduction handout

Anthony Katarsky attended a National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) meeting in Washington D.C. They had subcommittee meetings and one of the subcommittee meetings he attended was the mitigation subcommittee. A three-year study was completed that reaffirmed the 4 to 1 ratio for the benefit to cost ratio for mitigation measures. Also, a report was generated by the Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction (SDR) from the President’s National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) along with scientists and engineers worldwide. They are going to develop a ten-year strategy for disaster reduction which includes the “Grand Challenges for Disaster Reduction,” a document that presents six grand challenges for disaster reduction. The six grand challenges are listed below.

- Provide hazard and disaster information where and when it is needed.
- Understand the natural processes that produce hazards.
- Develop hazard mitigation strategies and technologies.
- Recognize and reduce vulnerability of interdependent critical infrastructure.
- Assess disaster resilience using standard methods.
- Promote risk-wise behavior.

Review of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant applications (FY06)

This year's PDM program has \$50 million available nationwide (down from \$150 million last year). States are limited to five applications for this year's funding round. The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management Division (MSP/EMD) received over 30 applications and selected four communities with eligible projects to fill out a formal application. The Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council (MHMCC) is charged with evaluating and prioritizing mitigation grants. These four eligible projects need to be prioritized from one to four by the council and then sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for funding consideration.

There was considerable discussion on the four PDM projects. The City of Lansing project has a significant impact on critical infrastructure. The Village of Ontonagon has some questions on the benefit-cost analysis but it also has an effect on critical infrastructure. The Ada Township project is located in the floodway and the Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan ranks acquisition and removal of floodprone structures as a top priority. The City of South Lyon has issues with their benefit-cost analysis and may have environmental issues.

Jason Nairn made a motion to rank the projects in the following order.

1. City of Lansing
2. Village of Ontonagon
3. Ada Township
4. City of South Lyon

The motion passed.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant update and grant application selections (FY 05 & FY06)

The City of Wakefield was selected for the FMA planning and technical assistance grant for fiscal year 2005 and finally received notification that their grant was awarded in December. The grant agreements were sent out in early January.

The MSP/EMD received a letter of interest from the City of Lansing applying for the FY06 FMA project funds. Two letters of interest for the planning and technical assistance grants were received from Keego Harbor/Bloomfield Hills (Oakland County.) The planning, technical assistance, and project applications are required to be submitted in Egrants. The state's application packet is due to FEMA on April 7, 2006. Council members will be emailed the grant information for evaluation before submittal to FEMA.

Old Business.

Update on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

There is a long held belief in the emergency management field that every \$1 spent on hazard mitigation measures saves \$2 in the future. Congress was skeptical of this number and commissioned its own study. They contracted with the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) as an independent evaluator. There were eight areas across the country (including one in Tuscola County, Michigan) that they studied. NIBS recently released the study which found that for every \$1 spent on hazard mitigation measures, \$4 was saved. This information is available at the NIBS website.

There are 120 obligated projects for Disaster 1346 HMGP. Currently, there are 38 active projects (the HMGP planning project counts as one project though there are 30 separate grants under the project) and six of the non-planning projects are having environmental difficulties.

The Flint River Erosion Control Board is a project to reconstruct about eight miles of earthen dike along the Flint River in Saginaw County. An Environmental Assessment (EA) has been in the works for about five years. Phase I, II, and III archeological investigations have been carried out on the project site looking for Native American Artifacts. The Phase III investigation (a full blown archeological dig) was completed in November of 2005 and the report is being drafted. Even though the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed this project numerous times over the last five years, they decided that the Flint River Erosion Control Board was a potential area for the Indiana Bat to nest. This issue is being resolved

by having thousands of trees assessed and six inch or larger trees with shredding bark cut down before March 15, 2006.

The City of Grand Rapids has a project to construct a floodwall and embankment along Plaster Creek to mitigate flooding homes. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also raised concerns about the Indiana Bat but there are relatively few trees to come down and they agreed to allow FEMA to condition project approval so that no trees will come down until after October 15, 2006. The FEMA Region V Environmental Officer (REO) has now raised a concern about the overbank area maintenance and is requiring an adopted, binding, and legally enforceable operating and maintenance plan to mow the project area.

The Dickinson County project is to floodproof the historic Cornish Pump Museum. It has no particular issues at this time. FEMA's contractor, URS Corporation, is drafting an EA. The MSP/EMD has worked with the county to appropriately revise their scope of work and application. Now MSP/EMD has to work with the applicant to make final revision to the application and publish a public notice about the project.

The Bay County Drain Commissioner has a project to construct a 30 plus acre detention pond that will mitigate flooding in the Garfield Subdivision. An EA has been drafted for the project but the REO will not publish the draft until the Bay County Drain Commissioner has obtained an MDEQ permit to construct the project. The MSP/EMD has worked with the Drain Commissioner to get the REO all required information. Currently, the permit application has been submitted to the MDEQ and is awaiting approval. Once the permit is granted, FEMA will publish the EA and, barring issues that may arise from public comment, approve the EA and the project.

The Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) project is for a culvert system at Alberta Ponds to mitigate roadway damage and flooding. Phase I design was approved and completed. The MSP/EMD drafted a new environmental review and is working with FEMA to resolve issues. The latest issue from FEMA is that a discussion of considered alternatives was not sufficient. The MSP/EMD will work with MDOT Superior Region staff to further develop the alternatives discussion.

The Commerce Township project is for the construction of a series of culverts to alleviate roadway and residential flooding. Phase I design was approved and completed. FEMA required the applicant to obtain a MDEQ permit prior to approval. They have done so. Now the MSP/EMD is working with FEMA to finalize the environmental review.

The MDNR project is for the closure of 11 mine shafts in the Upper Peninsula to mitigate against loss of life. After approval of the project the MDNR re-evaluated which mines were the highest risk to population centers and decided that the mine locations originally applied for were not the highest risk. Therefore, the MDNR requested a change in scope of work to change seven of the 11 mine locations. The change required that the project undergo a new environmental review. The MSP/EMD has been working on the new review with FEMA for two years and encountered a number of issues that had to be worked out. All materials have now been submitted to FEMA and the new scope of work should be in the final stages of approval.

The Macomb County project is for the modification of three pumping stations to mitigate residential flooding. The applicant requested a change in scope of work to include different work at each station (and has now removed one of the sites from the scope altogether). The MSP/EMD is drafting a new environmental review and benefit-cost analysis for the project.

The 1413 HMGP projects are doing well. Out of the nine obligated projects, seven of the projects are complete and the remaining two should be complete this summer. Disaster 1413 HMGP will be closed out after the two projects are complete.

In Disaster 1527 HMGP, there are two projects out of 21 that have been approved by FEMA. There are 12 projects that URS Corporation is doing environmental reviews on. There are five warning siren projects that are close to approval. FEMA has raised a concern about where the utility poles will be

located for the sirens. If the applicant cannot satisfactorily demonstrate the pole site is not in previously disturbed ground then a public notice will have to be published. The notice will serve residents the opportunity to speak out if they are concerned archeological resources may be impacted by the holes being dug for the utility poles. FEMA also decided new, more detailed narrative benefit-cost analyses need to be provided for the siren projects.

The mapping project by FEMA for the State of Michigan is being portrayed as a money grab for states such as Louisiana and Mississippi. It is being speculated that FEMA is going to place more land in the floodplain in Michigan and charge people flood insurance premiums. There was also a front page article in one of Michigan's newspapers that stated Michigan is subsidizing the rest of the United States in flood insurance premiums. The flood insurance payouts are significantly less than what Michigan pays into the insurance.

Update on Statewide Planning Initiative.

The "Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Status - 2/22/06" was handed out. At this point, some materials have been received by every emergency management program in the state. The Marquette plan will be submitted to FEMA in the near future which means the entire northwest of the state will be at FEMA for review or have already been approved. The MSP/EMD is sending out an informational letter to all of the local programs which addresses the need for local adoption by participating communities, includes a reformatted review form, and a copy of the FEMA review form.

The Wayne County plan was reviewed and comments were made by MSP/EMD. The MSP/EMD received Livonia's plan today. Ada Township is applying for PDM FY06 grant funds so the Kent/Ottawa/Grand Rapids plan is being worked on for approval.

Update on the CD development – information gathering process.

Phase II of the Statewide Hazard Mitigation Marketing Project will be the development of the educational materials (on a CD) for the seven target groups. Each section of the CD will have best practices for hazard mitigation, tailored to that particular group. Proposed questions such as "How does mitigation relate to me?" and "What do I need to be doing with regard to mitigation within my professional discipline?" will be answered in the guidance to each of the seven target groups.

At this point there has not been a lot of direct input from the council concerning the CD. MSP/EMD has received comments from one person. Five to ten best practices or wishes according to council members professional discipline should be emailed to Karen Totzke.

Additional comments regarding the MSP/EMD MHMCC website revision.

Council members should go to each page of the MHMCC website and write down ideas, impressions, and things that should be added to the website. It was then decided that the council would go over the website as a group during the next meeting. Theodore Nastal will attend the next council meeting to overlook the council's ideas and let them know what is allowed on the website.

Mitigation Excellence Award.

It was discussed whether the MHMCC would want to reinvent the wheel since the Michigan Emergency Management Association (MEMA) also does this award. Another issue was whether the council had the time to devote to this initiative. It was decided there would be minimal effort for the council once the award was set-up. Also, the MHMCC promotes mitigation so it makes sense to award people who have done outstanding work in mitigation.

In the meeting minutes dated October 19, 2005, Item 3 Mitigation Excellence Award – "William Wagoner made a motion that Bradley Deacon, William Smith, Kevin Thomason, and William Wagoner serve on the Mitigation Excellence Award Committee. The motion was approved." Jason Nairn made a motion that William Smith chair the Mitigation Excellence Award Committee. The motion was approved.

Update from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) by Les Thomas.

Les Thomas distributed a handout called "2006 Scoping Meetings" and "MI County-Wide Progress" to update the council on the map modernization program status. The map modernization program plans to update all floodplain maps nationwide. There are 14 Michigan counties slated for scoping meetings in 2006. FEMA, MDEQ, and each county will sit down together to discuss the county's floodplain. Information will then be put together and reviewed over the next year and in a matter of two years new flood maps will be made. Last summer the scoping meetings were finished for nine counties and now map studies are underway. MDEQ is working on the nine counties and some of their staff will be working on collecting stream data this year. A breakdown of the progress is listed below.

2006 Scoping Meetings

Barry
Bay
Branch
Calhoun
Kalamazoo
Marquette
Menominee
Midland
Monroe
Osceola
Saginaw
St. Joseph
Shiawassee
Van Buren

Map Studies Underway

Allegan
Cass
Clinton
Eaton
Genesee
Huron
Ingham
Lapeer
St. Clair

Preliminary Map Schedule

Kent (finals Su 06)
Livingston (prelim maps Su 06)
Macomb (finals Su 06)
Oakland (revised prelim maps 06 or 07)
Ottawa (prelim maps Su 06)
Washtenaw (prelim maps Su 06)
Wayne (prelim maps Su 06)

Final Map Produced and Being Adopted

Berrien

Last week was the 19th annual conference for the Michigan Stormwater/ Floodplain Management Association. The council was well represented at the conference. There were 118 registered attendees, 16 exhibitors, and 24 presentations. There were 17 people scheduled for the certified Floodplain Managers exam.

Update from the Insurance Industry (State Farm Insurance) by Kevin Thomason.

Kevin Thomason distributed handouts on the Child Passenger Safety Legislative Package, Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness, and "A Guide to Developing Tornado Emergency Plan for Schools."

The Child Passenger Safety Package was passed out of the Senate Transportation Committee yesterday. The package has to do with the long-term study of the value of booster seats in reducing child death and severity of injury in automobile accidents.

The Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness had its annual poster contest. There were 1,300 entries from grade schools all over Michigan. The winners have been selected and there will be a ceremony for the top four contestants and their families at the Capitol Rotunda on March 20, 2006.

"A Guide to Developing Tornado Emergency Plan for Schools" was recently revised. This plan along with a brochure is being distributed to schools and emergency management personnel around the state.

Currently, they are developing a PowerPoint presentation and comprehensive package for emergency managers to use for training sessions.

Update from Local Emergency Management (Ottawa County Emergency Services) by William Smith.

Ottawa County is still in the process of mitigating the flooding events in Robinson Township. The appraisals have been approved on behalf of the state and FEMA. Last night the river was right at flood stage (13.2 feet). The National Weather Service (NWS) has continued the flood warning for that area.

The City of Hudsonville is having a 50th anniversary commemoration at Hudsonville High School on April 3, 2006, for the F5 tornado that hit Hudsonville and Standale on April 3, 1956. This was the worst tornado on record to have hit West Michigan. There will also be a community awareness day and recognition with numerous other displays on April 22, 2006.

The MHMCC meeting dates are set far in advance for the entire year. Council members are all busy and continually cancelled meetings are an inconvenience. The last meeting date was changed three times. This sends a message that the council is not very important to the MSP/EMD. Also, it is unclear on how long council members appointments should be.

Update from the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) by Bradley Deacon.

The federal funds for fighting the Emerald Ash Borer have been dramatically decreased. The program will be much smaller but they are still working on keeping the Emerald Ash Borer out of the Upper Peninsula. This funding decision has an impact on local government, homeowners, and insurance companies.

One of the lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina concerned pets and particularly animal issues in general. One of our emergency planning and preparedness plans have gone for quarantining livestock facilities if there are diseases to keep them from being spread. Other issues are how to move animals in a flooding situation, and people who will not leave without their animals. There are issues about people bringing pets to places like Fort Custer during a flood because of the diseases and parasites the pets may bring with them. The MDA should have some guidance on these matters to distribute at the Homeland Security Conference.

The MDNR, MDA, and the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) have been working together on Avian Influenza. They all have response plans that they are comparing and MSP/EMD and the Governor's Office have been involved in the process. The MDNR, MDA, and MDCH directors testified in front of a House Committee last week discussing the integration of plans and response.

Update from the Michigan Department of Management and Budget (MDMB) by Jason Nairn.

The Continuity of Government Program is still receiving a lot of attention especially after there was a major power outage at the Secondary Complex a couple of weeks ago that ended up with administrative leave being granted to over 3,000 employees. The MDMB is going to meet with Consumers Energy to resolve the problem. After this incident there was a big continuity of operations push that day and the day after to make sure that all the critical functions at the Secondary Complex were pulled together. There has been no funding so after this incident the MDMB will be getting together with the Governor's Office to discuss the budget. A federal earmark was sent in for funds for continuity of government and energy directives.

The continuity of government and continuity of operations is being focused on as a key initiative for the Homeland Security grant funding for 2006.

Update from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) by Tim Jones.

The Critical Bridge Program (which has been renamed the Local Bridge Program) has \$62 million dollars in federal and state funds available to repair or redesign 137 local bridges. It requires a 5% local match. This year they are doing a regional approach, which is made up of seven regions that follow the MDOT

regions. The Local Bridge Program is comprised of a Local Bridge Fund, a Local Bridge Advisory Board (LBAB), and seven Regional Bridge Councils (RBC). The LBAB is the state level committee that oversees the Local Bridge Program operations. It comprises of eight members: three members from counties, three members from cities and villages, and two non-voting members from MDOT. An RBC is a regional committee that is charged with the responsibility of determining a 3-year bridge program that replaces, rehabilitates, and maintains the bridge inventory of their respective region. Each region makes a recommendation for the bridges in their area based on certain criteria. Then it goes to the Local Bridge Board and they make a decision which community would receive funding.

Update from an Urban Planning Association by William Wagoner.

The joint FEMA and American Planning Association (APA) course titled "Planning for a Disaster Resistant Community" is doing well and FEMA has decided to sponsor this course at the National APA Conference on April 22, 2006 in San Antonio, Texas. The Michigan contingent will be part of that all day planning workshop.

Discussion on the Review of the Council Bylaws

The council bylaws will be emailed to council members for review.

Next Meeting Date – April 19, 2006.

Motion made by Bradley Deacon to adjourn. Motion was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

***Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council
Meeting Minutes***

April 19, 2006

(Subject to Council Approval)

Council Members Present

Anthony Katarsky, Vice-chair
Tim Jones
Thomas Lennox
Anthony Sanfilippo
William Smith
Les Thomas
Kevin Thomason
William Wagoner

Council Members Excused Absence

Bradley Deacon
Jason Nairn

Others Present

James Breuker, MSP/EMHSD
Doran Duckworth, MSP/EMHSD
Mike Franzak, MSP/EMHSD
Angela Houseman, MSP/EMHSD
Gail Novak, Oakland County
Emergency Response and Preparedness
Joel Pepper, MSP/EMHSD
Matt Schnepp, MSP/EMHSD
Mike Sobocinski, MSP/EMHSD
Karen Totzke, MSP/EMHSD

Call meeting to order. At 1:35 p.m., Vice-chair Anthony Katarsky called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda. The agenda was approved.

Approve Minutes. William Smith made a motion to approve the February 22, 2006, meeting minutes with a correction to page seven, paragraph one – “The Local Bridge Program is comprised of a Local Bridge Fund, a Local Bridge Advisory Board (LBAB), and seven Regional Bridge Councils (RBC). The LBAB is the state level committee that oversees the Local Bridge Program operations. It comprises of eight members: three members from counties, three members from cities and villages, and two non-voting members from MDOT. An RBC is a regional committee that is charged with the responsibility of determining a 3-year bridge program that replaces, rehabilitates, and maintains the bridge inventory of their respective region. Each region makes a recommendation for the bridges in their area based on certain criteria. Then it goes to the Local Bridge Board and they make a decision which community would receive funding.” The motion was approved.

New Business.

Discussion of the review of the council bylaws.

The Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council (MHMCC) bylaws with the proposed changes were distributed to MHMCC members and Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security (MSP/EMHSD) staff. The changes were identified by bold and underlined text as noted below.

- Page 1 – Article 1 – Officers and Members
Section 1 – the Emergency Management Division has been changed to the **Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division.**

- Page 2 – Article 1 – Officers and Members
Section 4 – Membership Terms – has been added. **The new section states: “A member whose term has expired may continue to serve on the council either until reappointed, or until a replacement has been appointed by the Governor.”**
- Page 3 – Article III – Council Meetings
Section 2 – Special Meetings
In paragraph 2 the sentence has been changed from “In the event of a presidentially declared disaster or emergency in the state of Michigan . . .” to “In the event of a **Presidential Declaration of Disaster or Emergency** in the state of Michigan . . .”

In the event of a Presidential Declaration of Disaster or Emergency the council is tasked to “develop, review, comment on, and approve the hazard mitigation strategy for the disaster or emergency.” The federal government no longer requires a state hazard mitigation strategy although an informal strategy will be developed in the event of a Presidential Declaration of Disaster or Emergency.

Council members will be sent the updated MHMCC bylaws and any proposed changes should be submitted to Karen Totzke by June 9, 2006. Proposed changes will then be sent to the council members 30 days prior to the next council meeting. The council will adopt the updated bylaws at the next council meeting on July 19, 2006.

Review of the mitigation website information.

The MHMCC and MSP/EMHSD staff reviewed the eMichigan mitigation website. It was agreed upon that the use of pictures, graphics, and maps would enhance the website. It was also discussed whether the information should be sorted by subject matter or alphabetical. Some council members liked the idea of breaking it down like the Disaster Research site, which is by subject/hazard. Possible changes and links are listed below.

Changes

- Click on mitigation and get link to MHMCC
- Remove Project Impact
- Add PDMP to mitigation grant programs
- Applicable information from publication 920 on HMGP, FMAP, and PDMP added
- Application, quarterly report, and any other necessary forms under each grant program
- Section on planning with information on the state hazard mitigation plan and local planning efforts
- Move state and local mitigation planning under mitigation not just under planning in general
- Hazards in action – i.e. flooding
- Mitigation CD
- MHMCC meeting schedule, minutes, membership roster, bylaws – possible to have password for members to access this information if it can not be posted
- Contact person added for information on MHMCC
- Under planning have related publications and guidance link

Links

- DNR Fire Management
- DEQ
- NFIP
- Mitigation member agencies
- National Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and FEMA Region V website with map of region V so people know where it is
- FEMA success stories/best practices
- Association of State Floodplain Managers – link directly to mitigation and success stories
- Hydro Meteorological Design Study Center with NOAA
- National Institute of Building Sciences

- Multi-hazard Mitigation Council
- Michigan Townships Association
- Tornado Project Online
- Institute for Business and Home Safety
- State Farm Insurance Prevention and Safety
- All State – protecting America
- American Planning Association
- University of Illinois, Texas Tech, Natural Hazards Center
- All Disaster Research Sites – 17 pages of links
- EMI
- Michigan Stormwater Floodplain Association
- Firewise.org
- National Lightning Institute
- Projects with pictures

Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMAP) update and grant application selection (FY06).

The EMHSD submitted the FY07 FMAP grant package to FEMA on April 7, 2006. Only the planning grant was applied for this year and Bloomfield Township was the applicant. The application is currently being reviewed by FEMA for approval. Other communities were interested in the program but they were unable to make the deadline because of competing priorities.

Update on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Michigan has three open disasters in HMGP. There are 120 obligated projects for Disaster 1346 HMGP. Currently, there are 25 active projects (the HMGP planning project counts as one project though there are 30 separate grants under the project) and six of the non-planning projects are having environmental reviews done. Disaster 1413 HMGP has two projects left which should be completed this summer. Disaster 1527 HMGP has 18 projects with seven of those projects approved by FEMA.

There is a new FEMA mitigation grant program called the Repetitive Flood Claims Program. It was created through the 2004 Flood Insurance Reform Act and is intended to supplement the FMAP. There is \$10 million available nationwide. This is a 100% federally funded program for communities that have severe repetitive loss structures but do not have the money to remove these structures from flood prone areas. Applications for this program are due June 30, 2006, and funds will be dispersed by September 30, 2006. The MSP/EMHSD was provided a list of severe repetitive loss properties under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The council will not have to review these projects because they will be selected by a benefit cost analysis.

Old Business.

Mitigation Excellence Award Committee update.

The Mitigation Excellence Award Committee met and discussed the “Items for Consideration” paper and the “Mitigation Excellence Award” form from the Michigan Emergency Management Association (MEMA). The committee decided that the award title would be the “MHMCC Mitigation Excellence Award” and its purpose would be to recognize individuals and/or organizations that have demonstrated excellence in hazard mitigation. The criteria for an individual and/or organization to receive the MHMCC Mitigation Excellence Award would be “the individual and/or organization will make a significant commitment to hazard mitigation projects or initiatives.”

If there were two outstanding individuals and/or organizations that should receive the Mitigation Excellence Award, they both would receive an award. The council discussed a process for awarding the recipient(s). The council proposed to first present the award to the recipient, then at the MEMA Fall Summit, and lastly at the recipients organization (i.e. community meeting, etc.) The committee proposed the award would be presented annually. The actual award type idea is still under development by the committee, but it will be a plaque.

The committee suggested that there be a “running plaque” similar to the annual Professional Emergency Managers award. The committee is looking into the possibility of State Farm Insurance providing the funding for the Mitigation Excellence Award recipient to attend the annual MEMA Fall Summit. Recommendations for award criteria will be sent to council members prior to the next meeting. Karen Totzke will put these recommendations in a final format for review at the next council meeting.

Update on Statewide Planning Initiative.

The “Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Status – 4/19/06” map was handed out. At this point, some materials have been received by every emergency management program in the state. The entire Upper Peninsula of Michigan should be approved soon with the exception of Marquette County. The Marquette County plan is currently being reviewed by the state before being sent to FEMA for review. In the Lower Peninsula, most of the FEMA approved plans are in the western portion of the state. Work is now being focused on the eastern portion of the state.

Update on the CD Development – Information gathering process.

Information is being gathered for the mitigation CD. The council will review this information at a future council meeting.

State Agency/Private Sector/Local Emergency Management Program Updates.

Update from an Urban Planning Association by William Wagoner.

The joint FEMA and American Planning Association (APA) course titled “Planning for a Disaster Resistant Community” will be held at the National APA Conference on April 22, 2006 in San Antonio, Texas. John Wiley and Sons Publishers approached the APA to write an urban planning and design manual. The manual has been published and it is the first authoritative text on planning practices. There is a chapter on hazard mitigation in the manual.

Update from Local Emergency Management (Ottawa County Emergency Services) by William Smith.

The City of Hudsonville had its 50th anniversary commemoration at Hudsonville High School on April 3, 2006, for the F5 tornado that hit Hudsonville and Standale on April 3, 1956. The program for the 50th anniversary commemoration was handed out. More than 500 people attended. There will be a community awareness day with numerous other displays on April 22, 2006 at the Hudsonville City Hall.

Update from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) by Les Thomas.

The final maps for Oakland and Macomb County created through FEMA’s map modernization program will be effective in six months. The Berrien County maps were effective April 17, 2006, with approximately 60% of the communities adopting them to date.

At the February 22, 2006, meeting, it was mentioned that there were 17 people scheduled to take the Floodplain Managers exam at the 19th annual conference for the Michigan Stormwater/Floodplain Management Association. Out of the 17 people that took the exam, 13 passed.

Last summer St. Clair County started to go through the map modernization initiative and according to a study done by the Army Corps of Engineers in the mid 80’s the 100-year floodplain elevation should be one foot higher than it is on Lake St. Clair. Congresswoman Candace Miller has called for a hearing that is scheduled for May 8, 2006, to review the current flood elevation on Lake St. Clair and the Army Corp of Engineers study on Lake St. Clair. FEMA will have to testify but MDEQ will not. The Army Corp of Engineers, MDEQ, and a representative from FEMA reviewed the Army Corp of Engineers study on Lake St. Clair last week to determine its validity.

Update from the Insurance Industry (State Farm Insurance) by Kevin Thomason.

Emergency planning is becoming very popular in the business world. Many corporations are preparing emergency plans. This creates a good opportunity for public/private partnerships.

A brochure titled “Rip Currents! – Break the Grip of the Rip” was handed out. In terms of hazards that cause death, rip currents rank second behind heat. Rip currents are ranked ahead of floods,

tornadoes, lightning, and hurricanes for causing the loss of life. In the future, there will be more education to the public, warnings, and information available about rip currents.

**Update from the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division by
Lt. Thomas Lennox.**

Spring wildfire season is here so it is time to increase awareness to the public. One fact is that 90% of fires are a result of people burning brush or debris and it gets out of control.

Next Meeting Date – July 19, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room at the Collins Road facility.

Motion made by William Smith to adjourn. Motion was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

***Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council
Meeting Minutes***

July 19, 2006

(Subject to Council Approval)

Council Members Present

Anthony Katarsky, Vice-chair
Bradley Deacon
Tim Jones
Thomas Lennox
Anthony Sanfilippo
William Smith
Les Thomas
William Wagoner

Council Members Excused Absence

Jason Nairn
Kevin Thomason

Others Present

James Breuker, MSP/EMHSD
Doran Duckworth, MSP/EMHSD
Mike Franzak, MSP/EMHSD
Angela Houseman, MSP/EMHSD
Gail Novak, Oakland County
Emergency Response and Preparedness
Mike Sobocinski, MSP/EMHSD

Call meeting to order. At 1:45 p.m., Vice-chair Anthony Katarsky called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda. Brad Deacon made a motion to add the draft "Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council Report of Activities 2005" to the agenda under new business. The motion was approved.

Approve Minutes. William Wagoner made a motion to approve the April 19, 2006, meeting minutes. The motion was approved.

New Business.

Estral Beach Repetitive Loss Project (HMGP 1346).

The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) started a statewide project in 2003 to acquire and remove or elevate as many repetitive flood loss properties in Michigan as possible. The first community to participate in this project was Estral Beach in Monroe County, which is a low-lying community along Lake Erie. After a series of meetings with the community, a total of 39 homeowners were interested in elevating their homes.

The State of Michigan contracted with CDM, Inc. to oversee the Estral Beach project. CDM held the initial meetings with the property owners, generated interest within the community for the project, and then determined the level of interest. The state contract with CDM expired in late 2004, and because of various state constraints, the contract could not be renewed.

MSP/EMHSD staff is now overseeing the Estral Beach project. MSP/EMHSD staff met with the Estral Beach village manager on July 11, 2006, and discovered that the homeowners were still extremely interested in the project. There are 39 structures approved by the Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA), with an additional 10 homeowners interested in elevating their homes.

A work assignment matrix for MSP/EMHSD staff for the Estral Beach home elevation project was distributed and discussed. Elevation work in Estral Beach may begin later this year with work continuing year around until approximately the summer of 2007. When the project is complete, 20 percent to 25 percent of the homes in the community will be elevated.

Les Thomas (MDEQ) mentioned that there is a rider in NFIP policies for increased cost of compliance for up to \$15,000. This may assist NFIP policy holders in Estral Beach to produce the 25 percent match needed to participate in the HMGP. Les Thomas will discuss this issue with Matt Schnepf of the MSP/EMHSD.

Draft Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council Report of Activities 2005.

The draft "Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council Report of Activities 2005" was distributed to council members. Council members should review the draft and send any comments to Mike Franzak by August 18, 2006.

Update on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

There are three out of 120 projects left in federal disaster 1346 HMGP that need to be approved by FEMA. The three remaining projects are located in Commerce Township, Bay County, and Macomb County. Completed projects need to be inspected, photographed, and the geospatial position recorded before final closeout. MSP/EMHSD staff will be working on this throughout the summer and into the fall of this year.

There were three 1346 HMGP projects on hold because of environmental and cost-benefit concerns. They have been approved. One was the Flint River Dike project which should be completed in the next year. On July 26, 2006, MSP/EMHSD staff are scheduled to meet with John Spero, Chairman of the Flint River Dike Board. MSP/EMHSD staff will be able to view work in progress and completed segments of the dike. The MHMCC is welcome to view this project with MSP/EMHSD staff on July 26, 2006. (Note: that site visit was subsequently re-scheduled to August 1, 2006.)

The Plaster Creek floodwall and earthen berm (Grand Rapids) and the Cornish Pump Museum (Dickinson County) project was approved by FEMA. The Cornish Pump Museum project was approved for phase I. This will involve drilling a 10-inch diameter vertical shaft into the concrete cap to determine if a drainage system to reduce flooding is feasible.

The Emmet County project (Mitchell Road over Minnehaha Creek: upgrade from a culvert to a bridge) is the last project to be completed in federal disaster 1413 HMGP.

Project field inspections will be completed over the next couple of months for 1413 HMGP projects. Once inspections are completed, MSP/EMHSD will work with FEMA to close-out federal disaster 1413 HMGP.

The deadline for federal disaster 1527 HMGP project approval was June 30, 2006. FEMA is allowing an extension of 90 days, because there were several delays in the approval process. Recently, there have been ten 1527 HMGP applications approved and obligated by FEMA. There are four other applicants that are providing additional information to FEMA, and they should be approved in the near future. An environmental assessment will be completed by URS Corp. (FEMA contractor) on the Village of Lyons 1527 HMGP project. The MSP/EMHSD will use approximately \$2.6 million out of \$3.1 million on federal disaster 1527 HMGP projects. Federal rules prohibit adding any more projects to a federal disaster, therefore the total allotment of \$3.1 million can not be used.

Update on the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program.

The MSP/EMHSD submitted four projects to the National Evaluation Board for the fiscal year 2006 PDM. There were 190 projects submitted nationally, totaling \$134 million in funding requests with only \$50 million available. The National Evaluation Board selected 58 projects including two projects in Michigan. The infrastructure protection project in the City of Lansing was not selected, although it was determined to be eligible. The two selected projects in Michigan were the planning project to revise and expand the Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan per FEMA's 2007 revision requirements, and an acquisition project in Ada Township.

The Robinson Township FY 2005 PDM project is currently on hold while FEMA receives clarification on the budget changes. Although on hold, the MSP/EMHSD was able to get one home acquired by electronic funds transfer before the homeowner received a foreclosure.

The Michigan Technological University planning project has been slightly delayed because of some staffing issues with the regional planning commission. These issues should be resolved promptly.

The fiscal year 2003 PDM projects were given a grant extension to May 31, 2007, which should give St. Clair and Saginaw County ample time to complete their plans.

The fiscal year 2002 PDM plans for Wayne County and the City of Livonia have been approved. The City of Detroit had a problem with reimbursement for their plan, but the issue has been resolved.

A handout entitled "U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency eligibility for 5% initiative projects and 10% tornado policy", was distributed to council members and discussed.

Update on the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMAP).

There are a variety of ongoing FMAP planning projects. In late April, Frenchtown Township received approval for their FMAP plan.

Update on the Repetitive Flood Claims Grant (RFC).

No current update.

Old Business.

Mitigation Excellence Award Committee Update.

The Mitigation Excellence Award Committee offered recommendations per the last meeting minutes. The Committee has not received word from State Farm Insurance on whether or not they would fund the Mitigation Excellence Award recipient to attend the annual MEMA Fall Summit. The spring Homeland Security Training Conference may be merged with the MEMA Fall Summit to reduce the workload for MSP/EMHSD staff. Therefore, the award would be presented at the merged conference. MSP/EMHSD staff will work on the details for the award and present it at the next council meeting.

Update on Statewide Planning Initiative.

The "Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Status – 7/19/06" map was distributed. Since the last MHMCC meeting, the Upper Peninsula in Michigan has had three new mitigation plans approved. Marquette County is working on plan approval for the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and the FMAP. It is anticipated they will complete their plans in the next couple months, and then the entire Upper Peninsula will be through the approval process.

There have been additional plans reviewed in the Lower Peninsula since the last council meeting. Mecosta County's plan has been reviewed by FEMA. There were some problems with the Mecosta County area consultant so MSP/EMHSD staff offered assistance in finding resources or providing them with direct assistance. Kalamazoo County has one minor change in their plan for

FEMA approval. Shiawassee and Jackson Counties submitted plan materials to the MSP/EMHSD but requested that they be informally reviewed.

The Wayne County, Livonia, and Livingston County plans have been reviewed by FEMA and meet the planning requirements. They now need to be adopted by the community to complete the process. The second version of the Calhoun County plan has been mailed to MSP/EMHSD for review. The Region 7 Planning Commission area is working with MSP/EMHSD staff to get final approval. Antrim and Benzie County plans are relatively close to being finalized and once completed, many other surrounding area plans will follow through to completion.

Brief update on the mitigation website revision project

Mike Franzak will be working on the mitigation website with Ted Nastal. A mock-up of the website will be created from the previous input of the council then presented at the next council meeting.

Discussion on input received for the Council Bylaws

According to the Open Meetings Act, "A person shall not be required as a condition of attendance at a meeting of a public body to register or otherwise provide his or her name or other information or otherwise to fulfill a condition precedent to attendance." MCL 15.263, Section 3 (4). The Michigan State Police has a protocol for the Collins Road facility that if a person attends a meeting, they do not have to identify themselves, show picture identification, or sign-in.

The MHMCC By-laws should be consistent with the Michigan Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Commission (SERC) and the Open Meetings Act. Vice-chair Katarsky and MHMCC support staff will review the bylaws and meet with MSP/EMHSD staff, who recently attended an Open Meetings Act class, to make necessary changes. The updated bylaws will be distributed to council members prior to the next council meeting.

There were two suggested changes to the MHMCC Bylaws. 1) On page 5, in article 8, the second sentence, "Any proposed change in the bylaws shall be provided to the council 30 days prior . . ." was changed to "Any proposed change in the bylaws shall be provided to the council at least 30 days prior . . .". 2) On page 3, in section 4, the second sentence, "The agenda for a regular meeting shall be available for public inspection in the council's office ten (10) calendar days . . ." was changed to "The agenda for a regular meeting shall be available for public inspection in the council's office at least ten (10) calendar days . . ."

The MSP/EMHSD will revise the MHMCC Bylaws and make sure they are consistent with the SERC By-laws and the Open Meetings Act. The revised bylaws will be sent to council members prior to the next council meeting for approval.

State Agency/Private Sector/Local Emergency Management Program Updates

Update from an Urban Planning Association by William Wagoner.

On July 1, 2006, Michigan's three zoning enabling acts (one each for cities and villages, townships, and counties) will officially be repealed and combined into one new statute – the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (PA 110 of 2006). Much of the new language is a consolidation and reorganization of the existing language (though it should be noted that differences still exist between city and village, township, and county statutory powers.) These three entities of government are going to function much alike. The combined statute did not change the power structures between each of them nor did it change the relationship between the county and the subunit. Two handouts, "Partnership in Planning – Livingston County Department of Planning News, Summer 2006" and the "Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, Act 110 of 2006" were distributed.

Update from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) by Tim Jones.

All the MDOT hazard mitigation projects are complete except for the U.S. 2 Sand Dune Stabilization project. The US-2 Sand Dune Stabilization project is waiting for permits from the

U.S. Forest Service and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality before they can proceed.

MDOT has purchased three parcels from property owners in Robinson Township (Ottawa County) for the U.S. 31 road project.

Update from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) by Anthony Sanfilippo.

There is a new bureau for the fire marshal in MDLEG as of June 19, 2006. They rewrote the Public Act 207 Fire Prevention Code with the addition of the new bureau. The new Public Act 207 has quite a few changes in it. It also gives more power to the state fire marshal. Andy Neuman is the Acting State Fire Marshall until the Governor appoints someone.

Update from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) by Lt. Thomas Lennox.

The MDNR still continues toward NIMS training compliance and defining who within the department should attend. They started out with large list of people who should attend but narrowed the list down to a more manageable amount.

Lt. Thomas Lennox is coordinating the hiring process of 25 conservation officers to add to the MDNR training academy on September 10, 2006.

Update from Local Emergency Management (Ottawa County Emergency Services) by William Smith.

Ottawa County adopted their PDM plan but changed the name of the plan. The changed name had to be renamed the way it was submitted in order to be approved. When a community adopts a PDM plan, it must be exactly the way it was submitted to FEMA for approval.

Update from the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) by Bradley Deacon.

On July 17, 2006, the storms that went through Oceana, Mason, and Benzie County included hail that destroyed a portion of the cherry crop in the region. A couple of weeks ago in southeast Lenawee County and Monroe County, they received seven inches of rain, which knocked down a lot of wheat before harvest. The U.S. Department of Agriculture in East Lansing reported that some counties in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan are reporting drought-like conditions.

Bradley Deacon is the spokesperson for the MDA on the illegal import of Chinese poultry into southeast Michigan (potential avian flu concerns).

The MDA is working on a toolkit with the Michigan State University (MSU) extension to give to county emergency managers. The goal is to have these distributed by the fall Summit so that emergency managers can use the toolkit in exercises, table-tops, or in a real event.

Mark Hansen organized a multi-disciplinary emergency management exhibit for the MDA exposition which ended on July 19, 2006, at 7 p.m.

Update from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) by Les Thomas.

On July 20, 2006, FEMA will be holding a meeting with Wayne County communities to go over the preliminary National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) maps.

Every three years, when the State Building Code is opened up for review, MDEQ floodplain engineers are involved with the development of a "thoughts and suggestions" paper. This year (2006) was when the code was opened up and comments had to be in by May 15, 2006. Over the last three years, the MDEQ floodplain engineers identified some areas where there was a problem with the interpretation of the State Building Code. Using this information, the MDEQ floodplain engineers put together a suggested changes packet. The State Building Code

Commission did not accept any of the suggestions but allowed the MDEQ floodplain engineers to review four of the suggestions and resubmit those four. They were approved.

Public Comment.

Gail Novak from Oakland County, Emergency Response and Preparedness asked Les Thomas if the floodplain maps are still in effect until the new maps are adopted at the local community level. The new maps will be effective on September 29, 2006. Communities that have been participating in the NFIP need to have their maps adopted by September 29, 2006 or face suspension from the program.

Important Dates

Next Meeting Date – October 18, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room at the Collins Road facility.

Motion made by William Smith to adjourn . Motion was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.